

Domestic Migration Patterns in D.C.

The growth in the population over time is a function of births, deaths and migration. With relatively steady rates of births and deaths in the past few years, the role of migration on population change has become more visible. This report describes recent patterns in domestic migration for the District of Columbia as reflected in state to state and county to county migration inflows and outflows for 2000-2001 and 2005-2006. These two periods were selected as indicators of movement patterns since all periods between 2000 and 2006 showed similar numerical movements. The data were obtained from the Internal Revenue Service which utilized information collected from individual tax returns.

Definitions

Migration, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau, is a move that crosses jurisdictional boundaries. Local moves - like those within a county - are considered residential mobility and are not included in this report. Domestic migration is the movement of people within the United States. International migration is the movement of people across country borders. Immigration or inflow is movement into an area during a given period, while outmigration or outflow is movement out of an area during a

given period. Net migration for an area is the difference between immigration and outmigration during a specified time frame. Net migration can be either positive or negative. Positive net migration indicates that inflow is greater than outflow, while negative net migration indicates that inflow is less than outflow.

Inflows to the District

Inflows of people to the District numbered 22,080 in 2000-2001 and 23,833 in 2005-2006. In tables 1 and 2, inflows to the District illustrate the population moving into the District from the top five states and their corresponding top five counties, during 2000-2001 and 2005-2006. The largest population inflows to the District in 2000-2001 came from the adjoining state of Maryland (6,745), followed by Virginia (4,336), New York (1,341), California (1,099), and Pennsylvania (790). Among Maryland counties, most of the people moving to the District came from Prince George's County (3,531) and Montgomery County (2,321). Among Virginia counties, most of the people moving to the District came from

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Arlington County (1,365) and Fairfax County (1,312).

For the period 2005-2006, most of the people moving into the District also came from Maryland (6,841), followed by Virginia (4,597), New York (1,567), California (1,199), and Pennsylvania (915). Prince George's County (3,420) and Montgomery County (2,439) were the top counties in Maryland and Arlington County (1,661) and Fairfax County (1,281) were the top counties in Virginia.

Outflows from the District

Outflows of people from the District numbered 22,801 in 2000-2001 and 23,432 in 2005-2006. In tables 1 and 2, outflows from the District illustrate the population moving out of the District from the top five states and their corresponding top five counties, during 2000-2001 and 2005-2006.

The largest population outflows from the District in 2000-2001 went to the adjoining state of Maryland (9,740), followed by Virginia (4,358), New York (1,467), California (1,333), and Florida (572). Among Maryland counties, most of the people moved out to Prince George's County (5,820) and Montgomery County (2,948). Among Virginia counties, most of the people moved out to Arlington County (1,424) and Fairfax County (1,311).

For the period 2005-2006, most of the people moving out of the District also went to Maryland (9,850), followed by Virginia (4,266), New York (1,560), California (1,161), and Florida (611). Prince George's County (5,703) and Montgomery County (2,865) were the top counties in Maryland and

Arlington County (1,415) and Fairfax County (1,114) were the top counties in Virginia.

Impact of Inflows and Outflows on Population Numbers

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, net domestic migration was negative for the District for the period 2000-2001 and 2005-2006. This meant that the inflow of people to the District from other states was less than the outflow of people to other states. However, the positive natural increase (births greater than deaths), coupled with a net positive international migration resulted in a positive population growth for the District in both periods. The District's population thereby increased from 572,059 persons in 2000 to 585,459 persons in 2006.

Why People Move?

On average, about 40 million people in the United States change residents each year, according to the U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. Moving rates were found to differ by characteristics such as age, race, ethnicity, nativity, marital status, household type, whether the house is owned or rented, income, and poverty status. Among people who changed residence between 2002 and 2003, the highest percentage of people moved because of housing related reasons (51 percent), followed by family-related (26 percent), work-related (16 percent), and other reasons (6.8 percent). Housing-related reasons included people wanting to own home and not rent; people looking for new or better house or apart-

ment; and better neighborhood with less crime. Family-related reasons include change in marital status; and to establish own household. Work-related reasons include new job or job transfer; closer to work or easier commute; and retired. Other reasons include to attend or leave college; need a change of climate; and health reasons.

Note: The numbers for inflows and outflows of people listed in Tables 1 and 2 only reflect the population that filed taxes for those years. However, although it is a good representation of the movement of people, it does not capture those people who moved but did not file their taxes. However, this data set is the best available indicator of domestic migration data.

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**Table 1 - Inflows and Outflows of People: District of Columbia 2000-2001
(top 5 states and their corresponding counties)**

Inflows to District 2000-2001 from Top Five States	22,080	Outflows from District 2000-2001 to Top Five States	22,801
Maryland	6,745	Maryland	9,740
Prince George's County	3,531	Prince George's County	5,820
Montgomery County	2,321	Montgomery County	2,948
Anne Arundel	211	Anne Arundel	193
Baltimore County	199	Charles County	183
Howard County	131	Baltimore County	179
Virginia	4,336	Virginia	4,358
Arlington County	1,365	Arlington County	1,424
Fairfax County	1,312	Fairfax County	1,311
Alexandria	692	Alexandria	716
Prince William County	178	Prince William County	211
Loudoun County	68	Loudoun County	109
New York	1,341	New York	1,467
New York County	453	New York County	777
Kings County	159	Kings County	240
Westchester County	84	Queens County	84
Suffolk County	74	Westchester County	62
Queens County	73	Nassau County	48
California	1,099	California	1,333
Los Angeles County	282	Los Angeles County	326
San Francisco County	143	San Francisco County	273
San Diego County	141	San Diego County	146
Alameda County	84	Alameda County	122
Santa Clara County	72	Santa Clara County	103
Pennsylvania	790	Florida	572
Philadelphia County	157	Dade County	125
Allegheny County	127	Broward County	79
Montgomery County	72	Palm Beach County	45
Chester County	50	Hillsborough County	43
Bucks County	42	Duval County	34

Source: Internal Revenue Service Statistics of Income

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**Table 2 - Inflows and Outflows of People: District of Columbia 2005-2006
(top 5 states and their corresponding counties)**

Inflows to District 2005-2006 from Top Five States	23,833	Outflows from District 2005-2006 to Top Five States	23,432
Maryland	6,841	Maryland	9,850
Prince George's County	3,420	Prince George's County	5,703
Montgomery County	2,439	Montgomery County	2,865
Baltimore	226	Baltimore	359
Anne Arundel County	197	Anne Arundel County	250
Baltimore County	141	Charles County	195
Virginia	4,597	Virginia	4,266
Arlington County	1,661	Arlington County	1,415
Fairfax County	1,281	Fairfax County	1,114
Alexandria	686	Alexandria	714
Prince William County	163	Prince William County	196
Loudoun County	139	Loudoun County	181
New York	1,567	New York	1,560
New York County	627	New York County	821
Kings County	186	Kings County	282
Queens County	96	Queens County	77
Nassau County	82	Westchester County	50
Westchester County	73	Nassau County	50
California	1,199	California	1,161
Los Angeles County	303	Los Angeles County	300
San Francisco County	159	San Francisco County	278
San Diego County	154	San Diego County	137
Alameda County	84	Alameda County	106
Orange County	78	Santa Clara County	55
Pennsylvania	915	Florida	611
Philadelphia County	210	Miami Dade County	109
Allegheny County	152	Broward County	84
Montgomery County	98	Hillsborough County	61
Delaware County	84	Palm Beach County	47
Bucks County	45	Pinelias County	36

Source: Internal Revenue Service Statistics of Income

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